

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-12 (canceled)

13. (previously presented) A sandwich insert comprising an inner ceramic sliding cup which is surrounded by a plastic cover for insertion into an outer metal shell of an artificial hip joint, wherein the sliding cup has a stud at its outer end that is remote from an open end, wherein a cross section of the stud forms a shape selected from the group consisting of a) an n-sided body, wherein n is 2, 4, 5 or 6, b) a polygon and c) an oval wherein the cover embraces the sliding cup at its open end.

14. (previously presented) The sandwich insert according to claim 13, wherein the stud is arranged on the central axis of the sliding cup.

15. (previously presented) The sandwich insert according to claim 13, wherein the stud has an axial length of 1 - 8 mm.

16. (currently amended) The sandwich insert according to claim 13, wherein the stud is arranged in the plastic plastics cover by means of a snap-fit connection.

17. (currently amended) The sandwich insert according to claim 13, wherein the stud projects into the plastic plastics cover or projects completely through it.

18. (currently amended) The sandwich insert according to claim 13, wherein the stud is surrounded at least in part by the plastic plastics cover.

19. (canceled)

20. (canceled)

21. (canceled)

22. (previously presented) The sandwich insert according to claim 13, wherein the sliding cup is of a spherical or a stepped structural form on its outside.

23. (previously presented) The sandwich insert according to claim 13, wherein the cross section of the stud is oval.

24. (currently amended) The sandwich insert according to claim 13, wherein the sliding cup is pressed into the plastic plastics cover.

25. (previously presented) The sandwich insert according to claim 13, wherein the stud has an axial length of approximately 2 mm.

26. (previously presented) The sandwich insert of claim 13, wherein a cross section of the stud is an n-sided body, wherein n is 2, 4, 5.

27. (previously presented) The sandwich insert of claim 13, wherein a cross section of the stud is polygonal.

28. (previously presented) The sandwich insert of claim 13, wherein a cross section of the stud is oval.

29. (previously presented) A sandwich insert comprising an inner ceramic sliding cup which is surrounded by a plastic cover for insertion into an outer metal shell of an artificial hip joint, wherein the sliding cup has a stud at its outer end that is remote from an opening, wherein a cross section of the stud forms an oval shape.